

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**

REMARKS

Claims 1, 16, 30, 44 and 55 have been amended. Claims 4, 6, 19, 21, 33, 35, 45, 57-58, and 60 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-18, 20, 22-32, 34, 36-44, 46, 48-56, 59, and 61-67 are pending. These amendments were made to clarify the invention and were not made for patentability or to overcome the prior art.

Claims 1-3, 16-18, 30-32, 44, 55, and 59-60 stand as rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for provisional double patenting with claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14, 16-17, and 19-24 of U.S. Application No. 09/849,377, now U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of dependent claim 6, which is now cancelled. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 1 as amended is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719. Given that claims 2-3 depend from claim 1 as amended, applicants submit that these claims are also patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

Claim 16 has been amended to include the elements of dependent claim 21, which is now cancelled. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 16 as amended is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719. Given that claims 17-18 depend from claim 16 as amended, applicants submit that these claims are also patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

Claim 30 has been amended to include the elements of dependent claim 35, which is now cancelled. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 30 as amended is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719. Given that claims 31-32 depend from claim 30 as amended, applicants submit that these claims are also patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

Claim 44 has been amended to include the elements of dependent claim 47, which is now cancelled. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 44 as amended is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

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Claim 55 has been amended to include the elements of dependent claim 60, which is now cancelled. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 55 as amended is patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,719.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the pending claims in light of the above discussion. The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the Examiner's opinion, such a phone conference would expedite or aid in the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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